

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BUJUMBURA KIGALI DAR ES SALAAM USUN
ADDIS ABABA GENEVA KINSHASA BRUSSELS LAGOS FROM SECSTATE
JUNE 11 RPTD ROME JUNE 19

QUOTE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BY

SUBJECT: N. Y. TIMES ARTICLE ON BURUNDI REFUGEES

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY
JUNE 11, 1973, ALONGSIDE A COLUMN DISCUSSING THE
CARNEGIE REPORT. UNDER THE CAPTION QUOTE 10,000 REFUGEES
SAID TO FLEE BURUNDI IN A MONTH END QUOTE, THE
ARTICLE STATES QUOTE, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA, JUNE 10-
MORE THAN 10,000 MEMBERS OF THE MAJORITY HUTUS TRIBE IN
BURUNDI HAVE FLED INTO TANZANIA IN THE LAST MONTH
ACCORDING TO MISSIONARIES IN THE FRONTIER AREA- THE
REFUGEES SPEAK OF BRUTALITY BY TROOPS OF THE RULING TUTSI
TRIBE, WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR 15 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION.
ONE WOMAN REACHED A MISSION HOSPITAL AFTER BOTH HANDS
HAD BEEN HACKED OFF WITH A MACHETE. SHE SAID THAT
SOLDIERS HAD KILLED EVERYONE ELSE IN HER VILLAGE AND HAD
BURNED HOUSES AND CROPS.

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SOME OF THE REFUGEES WERE IN POOR PHYSICAL CONDITION AND HAD NOT EATEN FOR DAYS. THREE MEN WHO WERE EXHAUSTED AND STARVING DIED SOON AFTER REACHING A REFUGEE CENTER SET UP BY THE TANZANIANS AT KIGOMA, A PORT ON LAKE TANGANYIKA.

THE EXODUS FOLLOWS A NEW UPRISING LAST MONTH BY THE HUTU AGAINST THE TALL TUTSI, TRADITIONALLY A WARRIOR PEOPLE, LAST YEAR LARGE NUMBERS OF HUTU WERE MASSACRED IN BURUNDI AFTER A REPORTED COUP ATTEMPT BY HUTU TRIBESMEN

AGAINST THE TUTSI GOVERNMENT OF COL. MICHEL MICOMBERO. BORDER BLOCKADE REPORTED

REFUGEES SAY TUTSI TROOPS APPEAR TO BE TRYING TO CREATE A CORDON IN SOUTHERN BURUNDI TO PREVENT REFUGEE BANDS IN THE REMOTE FRONTIER AREA OF TANZANIA FROM CROSS-ING INTO BURUNDI TO ATTACK GOVERNMENT POST.

THE MOUNTAINOUS BORDER AREA IS LARGELY UNDEVELOPED AND ALTHOUGH THE TANZANIANS HAVE MOVED SOME 16,000 HUTU REFUGEES 250 MILES INLAND AWAY FROM THE FRONTIER TO EASE TENSIONS, THERE ARE THOUGHT TO BE AT LEAST 30,000 HUTU REFUGEES STILL IN THE AREA.

REPRESSION IS CONTINUING ELSEWHERE IN BURUNDI, ACCORDING TO REPORTS REACHING HERE FROM RELIABLE SOURCES. MANY HUTU HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF BUJUMBURA, THE CAPITAL, BY TUTSI, " ANTITERRORIST SECURITY PATROLS," AND A MASS GRAVE HAS BEEN SEEN OUTSIDE THE CITY, THESE REPORTS SAY.

COMPANIES ARE REPORTEDLY BEING FORCED TO RELEASE ALL TUTSI EMPLOYEES FOR MILITARY TRAINING, AND ONE EUROPEAN WHO ARRIVED HERE FROM BUJUMBURA THIS WEEK REPORTED THAT " THE TUTSI BELIEVE NOW THAT IT IS A CASE OF KILL OR BE KILLED." RUSH
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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